

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XXIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State/Territory: Georgia

DEFINITION OF SPECIALIZED SERVICES

I. Specialized Services Definition

A. For Mental Illness

Specialized services are services that are specified by the State which, in combination with services provided by the nursing facilities, results in the continuous and aggressive implementation of an individualized plan of care that—

- (i) Is developed and supervised by an interdisciplinary team, which includes a physician, qualified mental health professional and, as appropriate, other professionals.
- (ii) Prescribes specific therapies and activities for the treatment of persons experiencing an acute episode of serious mental illness, which necessitates supervision by trained mental health personnel; and
- (iii) Treatment is directed toward stabilization and restoration of the level of functioning that preceded the acute episode.

B. For Mental Retardation or Related Conditions

Specialized services are services that are specified by the State which, in combination with services provided by the nursing facilities or others service providers, results in treatment which includes aggressive, consistent implementation of specialized and generic training and related services by qualified mental health or mental retardation personnel that are directed toward—the acquisition of behaviors necessary for the client to function with as much self determination and independence as possible and to prevent deceleration of regression or loss of current optimal functional status.

C. Specialized Services Under GA's PASRR Program are:

Crisis Intervention Services – Immediate response and thorough assessment of an individual's (in an active state of crisis) risk factors, mental status, and medical stability and if necessary immediately intervene to de-escalate the crisis.

Individual, Group, Family Training/Counseling – Therapeutic intervention or counseling by a credentialed person that addresses behavior management, development or enhancement of specific skills.

Physician Assessment and Care Services – Specialized medical and/or psychiatric services that include, but not limited to, evaluation and assessment of physiological phenomena, psychiatric diagnostic evaluation, medical or psychiatric therapeutic services.

In-Service Training Services – Training for NF staff and assistance with skill development training classes for staff that will aid in the day-to-day provision of services recommended in individual's treatment plan.

Skills Training Services (Rehab Supports/Therapy) – Comprehensive rehabilitative services that aid in developing daily living skills, including interpersonal skills and behavior management skills.

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Day Support for Adults(Community Support) – Environmental and targeted case management aimed at assisting the person in gaining access to necessary services with the intention of developing/restoring interpersonal and community coping skills, including adaptation to home, school and work environments that allow the individual to maintain stability and independence in their daily community living.

Case Management (Assertive Community Treatment) – Intensive case management service that assist individuals in identifying and gaining access to all specialized services. Included in the list of services are; medication administration and monitoring, crisis assessment and social rehabilitation and skill development, personal, social and interpersonal skill training, etc., designed to assist the individual in transitioning into a community based program.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

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CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

The State mental health or mental retardation authority makes determinations as to whether nursing facility level of services and specialized services are needed, based on an evaluation of data concerning the individual (42 CFR 483.130). The State mental health or mental retardation authority may make determinations either through an advance group (categorical) determination or an individualized determination. A categorical determination may be made in the circumstances listed below, when sufficient and current patient information is available to clearly indicate that admission to, or residence in, a NF is needed or that the provision of specialized services is not needed. An individualized determination is performed in all other circumstances in which a Level II evaluation is needed.

Categories that the State mental health or mental retardation authority ^{will} ~~may~~ utilize to determine that nursing facility services are needed:

1. Convalescent care from an acute physical illness which requires hospitalization and does not meet all the criteria for an exempt hospital discharge (which is not subject to preadmission screening);
2. Terminal Illness, as defined for hospice purposes in 42 CFR Sec. 418.3 and Section 483.106(b)(2);
3. Severe physical illnesses such as coma, ventilator dependence, functioning at the brain stem level, or diagnoses such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and congestive heart failure which result in a level of impairment so severe that the individual could not be expected to benefit from specialized services;
4. Provisional admissions pending further assessment in cases of delirium where an accurate diagnosis cannot be made until the delirium clears, not to exceed 7 days;
5. Provisional admissions pending further assessment in emergency situations requiring protective services, with placement in a nursing facility not to exceed 7 days; and
6. Very brief and finite stays of up to 7 days to provide respite to in-home caregivers to whom the individual with MI or MR is expected to return following the brief NF stay.

Categories that the State mental health or mental retardation authority may utilize to determine that specialized services are not needed:

1. When admission is for situations 4., 5., and 6. above.
2. When dementia exists in combination with mental retardation or a related condition.

TN No.: 04-014

Supersedes

TN No.: 96-019Approval Date: 03/01/2005Effective Date: 10/01/2004

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